THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Discussions have been going on between Coal India Limited (CIL) and the World Bank for a loan of about Rs.2900 crores.

(b) and (c) The terms, conditions and norms etc. of the loan have not been decided.

Central Advisory Board on Child Labour

*111. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3208 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th April, 1995 and state the names of the representatives of CITU who are selected as members of the Central Advisory Board on Child Labour?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): CITU is being addressed to send nomination of a suitable representative for inclusion in the Board.

Delay in Payment of Monthly Salaries in PSUs

*112 SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the inordinate delay in payment of monthly salaries and wages to the workers of PSUs such as M/s. Jessop & Co., Burn Standard and Reyrolle Burn, NTC and NJMC Mills;

(b) if so, the action taken by his Ministry to prevent violation of Payment of Wages Act; and

(c) whether Government are aware that more than 1000 employees in M/s. Jessop have not been paid their gratuity after retirement and if so, the action taken against the defaulting company?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The issue regarding non-payment of wages and other statutory dues to employees of certain Public Sector Undertakings has been raised repeatedly by several members of Parliament in different formal/ informal forums. The Ministry of Labour has already taken up the matter with the concerned administrative Ministries as well as the Ministry of Finance so that funds are made available intime for payment of salaries and wages to the workers.

The Union Labour Minister has also written a letter to the Cabinet Secretary suggesting the creation of a co-ordination mechanism within the Cabinet Secretariat in the form of a Committee of Secretaries to review the status of payment of statutory dues to the workers of central PSUs and prompt release of budget support wherever necessary. The Committee may consist of senior representatives of the Department of Public Enterprises, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministrry of Labour and also other concerned Ministries/Departments including representative from the Planning Commission.

A statement indicating status of payment of wages and statutory dues in respect of Jessop & Co., Burn Standard, Reyrolle Burn and National Textiles Corporation is enclosed.

Status of payment of wages in M/s Jessop & Company, M/s Reyrolle Burn and National Textiles Corporation and outstanding gratuity dues in Jessop & Company.

1. M/s Jesson & Company:— The employees have been paid salary and wages upto May, 1995. The company has not paid wages for the month of June due to financial crisis. The Company has also not paid gratuity amounting to Rs.8.50 crores to 1680 employees who retired during 1992-95. The Deptt. of Heavy Industry has submitted a proposal for non-plan assistance to the Cabinet for

meeting working capital requirements and also for payment of wages and gratuity.

2. M/s Burn Standard Co. Ltd. (BSCL):— All the employees, barring those in Raniganj and Gulfarbari Units, have been paid wages upto June, 1995. Payment has been made in Raniganj unit upto fortnight ending 17.6.95 and in Gulfarbari unit upto fortnight ending 10.6.95. The Deptt. of Heavy Industry has submitted a proposal to Ministry of Finance for release of funds to BSCL for payment of wages.

3. Reyrolle Burn Ltd. (RBL):— The employees have been paid wages and salary upto June, 1995.

4. National Textile Corporation (NTC):— Out of 9 units, wages have been paid upto date in 7 units. In two units, fifteen days' wages are yet to be paid.

5. National Jute Manufactures Corporation (NJMC):— Wages have been paid upto date.

Shortage of Coal

*113. SHRI G.G. SWELL:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stock shortage of coal during 1991-92 was worth Rs.130.79 crores and the figures rose to Rs.234 crores and 250 crores during 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively; and

(b) if so, what action has been contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) As per the audited accounts of Coal India limited and its subsidiary companies, the value of shortage of coal for the year 1991-92 to 1993-94 is as follows:—

1991-92	Rs. 146.42 crores
1992-93	Rs. 42.82 crores
1993-94	Rs. 69.10 crores

(b) Provision has been made in the audited accounts and profit and loss statements for these shortages.

Action to fix responsibility for the shortages as per the established procedures of Coal India Limited has been initiated.

Reaction of International Market to Imports by India

*114. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that whenever India has announced its intention to import any item in bulk, international market has reacted adversely by hiking the price of that item;

(b) whether Government have identified the reasons for such a reaction; and

(c) whether any procedure is being evolved to avoid such reactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Any bulk import of commodities by India or any other large country is likely to have an impact on the international markets/ prices depending on the supply elasticity, demand pattern of other major importers, the type of products, etc. The transparency and openness in the procedure adopted by India in effecting such purchases can be expected to influence the market sentiment whenever bulk purchase operations are undertaken by public sector organisations.

(c) As part of the liberalisation process under way, items of mass consumption such as pulses sugar and edible oil have